

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-35 under 35 USC 102. These rejections are fully traversed below.

Claims 6 and 20 have been amended. Claims 57-60 have been added. Thus, claims 1-60 are pending in the application. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested based on the following remarks.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC 102

Claims 1-35 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by *Bernd et al* (U.S. Pat. No. 5,731,541).

In contrast to *Bernd*, claim 1 (and its dependents) specifically requires, "...electrically and structurally coupling the elements of the first and second members together." While *Bernd* may disclose housing parts 2 and 4 and a layer 8 disposed between the housing parts 2 and 4, *Bernd* does not teach or suggest a layer 8 that structurally couples the housing parts 2 and 4 together, i.e., being disposed between is not structurally coupling. In *Bernd*, it appears that the sealing layer 8 is only applied to a screening frame 1/plastic molded part 3 that screens the space between the two housing parts 2 and 4 (see Fig. 1). *Bernd* states, "...layer 8 consisting of one or more strips is applied to the edges of the rigid edges of the rigid plastic parts 3...(Col. 4, lines 61-63)," and "...it adheres on said surface and cures, in the presence of air, to form the flexible sealing layer 8...(Col. 5, lines 16-18)." Accordingly, the rejection is unsupported by the art and should be withdrawn.

Also in contrast to *Bernd*, claim 9 (and its dependents) specifically requires, "...the adhesive structurally attaching the first and second members to form a singular composite structure." While *Bernd* may disclose housing parts 2 and 4 and a layer 8 disposed between the housing parts 2 and 4, *Bernd* does not teach or suggest a layer 8 that structurally attaches the housing parts 2 and 4 (or screening frame 1) to form a singular composite structure. For one, *Bernd* does not teach or suggest an adhesive, but rather a seal. For another, *Bernd* does not teach or suggest a sealing layer 8 that attaches to housing parts 2 and 4. As stated above, it appears

that the sealing layer 8 is only applied to the screening frame 1/plastic molded part 3. For yet another, *Bernd* does not teach or suggest forming a singular composite structure. As should be appreciated, the housing parts 2 and 4 as well as the screening frame 1 are separate structures that are closed up by means of screws 2a. Accordingly, the rejection is unsupported by the art and should be withdrawn.

Also in contrast to *Bernd*, claim 20 (and its dependents) specifically requires, "...a conductive bridge electrically bonding the first and second conductive surfaces and electrically sealing an interface between the first and second conductive surfaces so as to form a singular conductive structure for shielding electronic emissions." While *Bernd* may disclose a screening frame 1 and a conductive layer 8 disposed between housing parts 2 and 4, *Bernd* does not teach or suggest a screening frame 1 and conductive layer 8 that is electrically bonded to conductive portions of the housing parts 2 and 4. In *Bernd*, the conductive layer electrically contacts the housing parts 2 and 4, but it does not electrically bond (e.g., join securely) with the housing parts 2 and 4. Electrically bonding the housing parts is opposite the aim of the invention in *Bernd*, which is to provide a screening element suitable in particular for sealing screening housings which have to be repeatedly opened and closed (see Col. 2, lines 33-35). As should be appreciated, something that is repeatedly opened and closed is not made up of a singular conductive structure, but rather made up of multiple conductive structures. Accordingly, the rejection is unsupported by the art and should be withdrawn.

Also in contrast to *Bernd*, claim 31 specifically requires, "...a first case configured to at least partially enclose internal components of the portable computer..." *Bernd* is completely silent to a portable computer. Furthermore, *Bernd* does not teach or suggest "...the first member being structurally glued to the second member to form a composite structure..." *Bernd* also does not teach or suggest, "...the glue having properties that allow it to compensate for tolerances in the first and second members so as to produce a desired first case dimension..." Accordingly, the rejection is unsupported by the art and should be withdrawn.

Claims 1-35 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Tiburtius et al (U.S. Pat. No. 6,323,418).

In contrast to *Tiburtius*, claim 1 (and its dependents) specifically requires, "...electrically and structurally coupling the elements of the first and second members together." While

Tiburtius may disclose lower part 2, cover 3 and a seal 4 disposed between the lower part 2 and cover 3, *Tiburtius* does not teach or suggest a seal 4 that structurally couples the lower part 2 and cover 3 together, i.e., being disposed between is not structurally coupling. In *Tiburtius*, it appears that the seal 4 is only applied to the lower part 2. *Tiburtius* states, "...a seal 4 formed directly ("dispensed") on the lower part 2 to seal the joint between the lower part 2 and the cover 3...(Col. 3, lines 61-63)," and "...the screening seal consists of resilient sealing element 4 made of conventional elastic plastics material (such as unfilled silicon or neoprene) adhesively attached to the lower part 2...(Col. 4, lines 10-13)." Accordingly, the rejection is unsupported by the art and should be withdrawn.

Also in contrast to *Tiburtius*, claim 9 (and its dependents) specifically requires, "...the adhesive structurally attaching the first and second members to form a singular composite structure." While *Tiburtius* may disclose lower part 2, cover 3 and a seal 4 disposed between the lower part 2 and cover 3, *Tiburtius* does not teach or suggest a seal 4 that structurally attaches the lower part 2 and cover 3 to form a singular composite structure. For one, *Tiburtius* does not teach or suggest an adhesive, but rather a seal. For another, *Tiburtius* does not teach or suggest a seal 4 that attaches to the cover 3. As stated above, it appears that the seal 4 is only applied to the lower part 2. For yet another, *Tiburtius* does not teach or suggest forming a singular composite structure. As should be appreciated, the lower part 2 and cover 3 are separate structures that are closed up by means of screws 5.1 to 5.4. *Tiburtius* states, "The cover 3 is attached to the lower part 2 by screwing, with four screws 5.1 to 5.4 passing through corresponding bores in the corners of the cover 3 and screwed into screw threads in the lower part 2...(Col. 3, lines 63-67)." Accordingly, the rejection is unsupported by the art and should be withdrawn.

Also in contrast to *Tiburtius*, claim 20 (and its dependents) specifically requires, "...a conductive bridge electrically bonding the first and second conductive surfaces and electrically sealing an interface between the first and second conductive surfaces so as to form a singular conductive structure for shielding electronic emissions." While *Tiburtius* may disclose lower part 2, cover 3 and a seal 4 disposed between the lower part 2 and cover 3, *Tiburtius* does not teach or suggest a seal 4 that is electrically bonded to conductive coating 6.2 of the cover 3. In *Tiburtius*, the conductive coating 6.2 electrically contacts the conductive coating 6.1 of the seal 4 and lower part 2, but it does not electrically bond (e.g., join securely) with the seal 4 or lower part 2. This particular limitation of claim 20 is opposite the teaching of the invention disclosed

in *Tiburtius*, which is to provide a housing that is easy to open, e.g., for maintenance purposes or for changing a battery in the housing, and is easily resealed afterwards while retaining the screening effect (see Col. 1, lines 40-44). As should be appreciated, something that is easily opened is not made up of a singular conductive structure, but rather made up of multiple conductive structures. Accordingly, the rejection is unsupported by the art and should be withdrawn.

Also in contrast to *Tiburtius*, claim 31 specifically requires, "...a first case configured to at least partially enclose internal components of the portable computer..." *Tiburtius* is completely silent to a portable computer. Furthermore, *Tiburtius* does not teach or suggest "...the first member being structurally glued to the second member to form a composite structure..." *Tiburtius* also does not teach or suggest, "...the glue having properties that allow it to compensate for tolerances in the first and second members so as to produce a desired first case dimension..." Accordingly, the rejection is unsupported by the art and should be withdrawn.

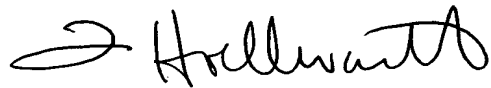
Although the rejections to the dependent claims 2-8, 10-19, 21-30 and 32-35 should be withdrawn for at least the reasons as above, it should be noted that they offer additional language that is unsupported by the art. For example, neither reference teaches or suggests, "...wherein the adhesive is arranged to absorb geometric variations found in the frame or casing so as to meet a predetermined geometry of the component..." or "...wherein the adhesive is a glue..." as required by claims 10 and 11, respectively. Moreover, neither reference teaches or suggests, "...wherein the conductive bridge is a conductive paste..." or "...wherein the conductive paste is a metal filled electrically conductive ink..." or "...wherein the plastic material is a carbon fiber plastic, the second metallic material is a nickel plated layer, and the metallic material is titanium sheet metal..." as required by claims 21, 23 and 26, respectively.

SUMMARY

Applicant believes that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX

6. (Once Amended) The computing device as recited in claim 5 wherein the structural glue is arranged to structurally attach the structural elements of the first and second members, and wherein the conductive paste is arranged to electrically connect the conductive **[members]** elements of the first and second members.

20. (Once Amended) A component of a computer enclosure comprising:
a first member having a first conductive surface;
a second member having a second conductive surface; and
a conductive bridge electrically **[connecting]** bonding the first and second conductive surfaces and electrically sealing an interface between the first and second conductive surfaces so as to form a singular conductive structure for shielding electronic emissions.